

Reducing Barriers and Improving Uptake of Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Antenatal Clinics Workshop

Goal: Discuss barriers to routine offering of antenatal voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) and present examples of successful programs

Objectives:

1. Review overall barriers to universal offering of VCT in antenatal settings
2. Present specific state experiences in trying to identify barriers to universal offering of VCT in their targeted antenatal programs
3. Impact of state laws for newborn testing on uptake of antenatal VCT
4. Pregnant women's perspectives on reasons why women may not be universally offered antenatal VCT
5. Discuss strategies which have been successful in increasing provision of universal VCT in antenatal programs

Speakers:

1. Overhead summarizing highlights from OIG report re: barriers to VCT in obstetrician offices—Ann Maxwell
2. NY discussion of barriers and strategies to increase uptake of antenatal VCT—Roberta Glaros
3. CA discussion of barriers and strategies to increase uptake of antenatal VCT--Getahun Aynalem (LA county), Clea Sarnquist/Barbara Sullivan (CA)

Discussion Points:

1. What are useful methods to identify further barriers to offering VCT?
2. What do pregnant women perceive as barriers to offering of VCT in antenatal settings
3. State experiences as to which strategies they have found most successful in enhancing uptake of VCT in antenatal settings
4. What are strategies for influencing obstetricians who continue to be use risk assessment in making decisions as to whether to offer testing
5. What are participant responses to NY testing experiences?

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